

Case Study: FEAST Grant Support

Improving Production Efficiency



FEAST Funding Allows Derbyshire Manufacturer to Increase Production by 20%

Derbyshire-based food and drink manufacturer Highfield House Farm has accessed FEAST funding to support the purchase of manufacturing equipment. The funding has allowed them to purchase vital machinery that has increased their product efficiency and has allowed them to expand on their existing product range.

The background

Family-owned Highfield House Farm based in Derbyshire was initially a farm shop but has developed over the years into a much larger operation employing full and part time staff from the local area.

Originally stocking products from the surrounding area, Highfield House Farm now manufactures products in-house such as pies, pasties and a range of value added sausages. Staying true to their roots, Highfield House Farm use local ingredients wherever possible in their produce.

Sausages are now a major product range for Highfield House Farm, so much so that they were looking to invest in efficient, automated machinery which will help to speed up production and increase the volume and variety of products by 20%. By making the sausage manufacturing process more efficient this will release their butchers to better utilise their skills in other areas.

The new equipment required included; a mixer grinder which will help to increase production by 20% of sausage, burger and meat products giving more scope and time. A planetary mixer which will enable Highfield House Farm to mix pastry more consistently giving a better product and enabling the development of new products. A pastry roller for increasing the production of rolled pastry at consistent thicknesses for different products i.e puff pastry / short-crust pastry.



“Without the FEAST support our project would not have come to fruition.

The additional equipment we have purchased has now enabled us to provide a work opportunity for an apprentice, freeing up the time of our higher-level bakery staff to work on other areas of the business.”

David Prince
Owner
Highfield House Farm

Case Study: FEAST Grant Support

Improving Production Efficiency



FEAST support

FEAST advisor, Paul Sheppard met with Highfield House Farm and identified the need for new production machinery in order to improve Highfield House Farm's competitiveness. He supported the business through their FEAST grant application which was successful and the business received a grant of £6,000.

The Result

The equipment has helped to reduce production costs, whilst allowing Highfield House Farm to employ two new members of full time staff and an apprentice to assist the manufacturing process.

The new equipment has allowed Highfield House Farm to widen their product range and speed up production by 20%.

FEAST, which stands for the Food Enterprise Advisory Support Team, will run until December 2018. The project is worth £7.1million in total and will receive £3.5million funding from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Growth Programme 2014-2020.

www.foodanddrinkforum.co.uk



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

The FEAST project is receiving up to £3.5million of funding from the European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the Managing Authority for the European Regional Development Fund. Established by the European Union, the European Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit: www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding